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more, there were registered 67 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, 36 deaths from cancer, 10 deaths from measles, 1 death from scarlet fever; finally, 24 persons died by violence.

Report from Chemnitz—Twenty-five years of German mortality statistics.

The following is received from Consul Monaghan, under date of January 27:

An interesting statistical compilation was recently published under the caption "Twenty-five Years of German Mortality Statistics." Being a Government publication, and issued through the collaboration of the bureaus of sanitation and of statistics, the report has every claim to trustworthiness. The figures concern themselves with the causes and number of deaths among the leading diseases during the last twenty-five years, that is, from 1877 to 1901, in cities whose population exceeds 15,000.

In 1877 these cities contained a total population of 7,300,000 inhabitants, while by 1891 this number had been swelled to 17,500,000. The entire statistical presentation forms a splendid monument to the attainments of modern culture, and to the rapid progress of medical and sanitary science in the German Empire.

The following table presents the gist of the inquiry. The figures show the number of deaths per 100,000 inhabitants during the five years from 1877 to 1881, and during the five years from 1897 to 1901. The figures in the last column show how many times the death rate was greater during the first five years of the statistical inquiry. Thus in case of smallpox the death rate during the five years from 1877 to 1881 was 37.5 times as great as during the five years from 1897 to 1901:

Number of deaths per year per 100,000 inhabitants.

Disease.	1877-1881.	1897-1901.	Death rate first 5 years (times as high).
Smallpox.....	1.5	0.04	37.5
Abdominal typhoid.....	43.6	10.4	4.2
Localized typhoid.....	2.6	.06	43.3
Puerperal fever.....	14.4	5.1	2.8
Measles.....	27.6	21.3	1.3
Diphtheria.....	99.8	31.1	3.2
Acute diseases of the respiratory organs.....	308.6	258.5	1.2
Consumption.....	357.7	218.7	1.6
All other diseases not here enumerated.....	1,426.7	1,129.8	1.3
Average death rate.....	26.73	20.46	1.3

A gratifying advance is thus recorded in case of all these diseases. Its explanation is found in the spread of knowledge, the development of municipal administration, the progress of medicine, and the improvement of national legislation. Especially salutary in their operation are reported to have been the laws introducing invalid insurance (1885), the ordinances for the protection of workmen, and for the inspection of food products and the establishment of local bureaus for the analysis of food products.

The number of suicides has also decreased. During the years from 1877 to 1881 the rate of suicide per year per 100,000 was 31, while during the years from 1897 to 1901 the rate was 24.5. The general

improvement in the material welfare of the people is advanced in the report as an explanation.

The history of one class of diseases, that of acute intestinal diseases, is, however, extremely unfavorable. Its progress is looked upon with alarm. The death rates in cities of 15,000 inhabitants during periods of five years were as follows, per year, per 100,000 inhabitants:

During the five years—	Death rate per 100,000.
1877-1881.....	264.4
1882-1886.....	253.1
1887-1891.....	258.2
1892-1896.....	256.6
1897-1901.....	287.8

Among the acute intestinal diseases are included colic, stomach and intestinal catarrh, and diarrhea. It is especially among children that mortality from these diseases has been increasing, and particularly among sucklings.

The explanation given for this is that women are with each succeeding year participating to a larger extent in industrial life, and in consequence neglecting to bestow the necessary and proper care upon their children. Young children are too frequently irregularly nourished or starved while the mother is laboring in the factory or workshop, while, on the other hand, the common milk used for nourishment often contains impurities, or is prepared by unskilled or careless hands, thus exposing the fragile life of the child as a sacrifice to poverty or ignorance. However, with the rapidly improving methods in the handling of milk one of these evils will undoubtedly lessen from year to year.

HAWAII.

Plague at Hilo.

HONOLULU, *March 7, 1904.*

WYMAN, *Washington:*

There was a death from plague, Hilo, March 4.

COFER.

INDIA.

Report from Calcutta—Fumigation of vessels to destroy vermin.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Sprague, at Calcutta, reports, February 4 and 11, as follows:

During the week ended January 30, 1904, 1 bill of health was issued to the steamship *Queen Olga*, bound for Philadelphia, with a total crew of 30, all Europeans. Rat guards were kept on her wharf line during her stay at dock and the cargo compartments were fumigated for the destruction of vermin.

During the week ended February 6, 1904, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Queen Eleanor*, bound for Boston with a total crew of 31, all Europeans. Rat guards were maintained on the wharf lines, and the holds were fumigated for destruction of vermin.